

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01
CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DLOS-06 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FEAE-00 FMC-01
TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAL-01 /120 W
-----231711Z 057800 /47

R 231604Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6742
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 05120

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PGOV EEC UR WB GW US UK FR GE PO
SUBJECT: EC/EAST BLOC FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS: BERLIN
AND THE TERRITORIAL CLAUSE

REFS: (A) EC BRUSSELS 2403; (B) BONN 4251;
(C) EC BRUSSELS 2324; (D) BONN 3615;
(E) BONN 3537

SUMMARY. AT MARCH 22 BONN GROUP MEETING, UK, FRENCH
AND FRG REPRESENTATIVES AGREED THAT IT IS NOT NECESSARY
TO PRESS QUESTION OF BERLIN AND THE TERRITORIAL CLAUSE
IN EC FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS WITH GDR AND POLAND. EC
POSITION ON THIS CLAUSE WILL BE RESERVED IN
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NEGOTIATIONS WITH THOSE COUNTRIES, LEAVING SUBSTANTIVE
NEGOTIATIONS ON THE CLAUSE TO BE CONDUCTED WITH USSR.
END SUMMARY.

1. BONN GROUP MET MARCH 22 AT UK REQUEST TO CONSIDER
APPROACH TO USSR, POLAND AND GDR ON TERRITORIAL CLAUSE IN
EC FISHERIES AGREEMENT. UK REP (HITCH) SAID THAT

NEGOTIATIONS WITH GDR ARE SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 24,
WITH NEXT ROUNDS OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH POLAND AND USSR
SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 9 AND 19 RESPECTIVELY.

2. HITCH NOTED THAT, AS WAS DONE EARLIER WITH THE
SOVIETS, THE POLISH NEGOTIATOR HAD ALREADY BEEN INFORMED
ON THE MARGINS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS THAT THE PROPOSED
TERRITORIAL CLAUSE EXPRESSED THE POSITION OF THE EC ON
BERLIN. HITCH SAID THE FCO REGRETTED THAT THE SUBJECT
HAD BEEN BROACHED WITH THE POLES AND WAS OF THE VIEW
THAT BY PUTTING PRESSURE ON THE GDR TO ACCEPT THE EC
VIEW OF THE TERRITORIAL CLAUSE, THE RESULT COULD BE
SERIOUSLY COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. HE SAID THAT THE UK
REALIZED THERE WAS A POSSIBLE COUNTER-ARGUMENT, THAT
FAILING TO MENTION BERLIN TO THE GDR MIGHT BE TAKEN AS
A SIGN OF WEAKNESS OR A WILLINGNESS TO CONCEDE ON THE
APPLICATION OF THE AGREEMENT TO BERLIN. THIS WAS
SIMPLY A MATTER OF JUDGMENT, HOWEVER, AND THE FCO VIEW
WAS THAT FORCING THE BERLIN ISSUE PREMATURELY WOULD LEAD
THE GDR TO PRESS THE SOVIETS TO REFUSE.

3. THE FRG REP (HENZE) SAID THAT THE FRG HESITATED TO
ACCEPT THE UK SUGGESTION. IN HIS VIEW, THE GDR WAS WELL
AWARE OF THE PROBLEM AND THE EC'S VIEW. WE SHOULD
ASSUME, HE SAID, THAT THE EAST BLOC HAS CLOSELY
COORDINATED ITS POSITION AND THAT THE EC'S FAILURE
TO RAISE THE TERRITORIAL CLAUSE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH
THE GDR, AFTER IT HAS BEEN RAISED WITH THE POLES AND
SOVIETS, MIGHT CAUSE THE GDR TO INFER THE ERRONEOUS
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SIGNAL TO WHICH THE UK ALLUDED. HE SAID THAT IF THE
EC EVER CONSIDERS CHANGING ITS POSITION ON THE
TERRITORIAL CLAUSE, IT SHOULD DO SO IN NEGOTIATIONS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 05120

WITH THE SOVIETS, NOT WITH ANOTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN
COUNTRY.

4. THE FRENCH REP (BOISSIEU) SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS
THERE IS NO PROBLEM. HE NOTED THAT IN DISCUSSIONS WITH
THE POLES, THE LATTER DECLINED TO DISCUSS THE
TERRITORIAL CLAUSE WHILE RESERVING THEIR POSITION. THE
POLISH REP REPORTEDLY INFORMED THE FRENCH REP THAT THE
MATTER SHOULD BE TAKEN UP WITH THE SOVIETS. BOISSIEU
SAID THAT SINCE THE SOVIETS WOULD MAKE THE DECISION
WHICH WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY OTHER EAST EUROPEANS, THE EC
COULD SIMPLY RESERVE ITS POSITION UNTIL LATER.
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5. AFTER SOME DISCUSSION, THE DIFFERENCE WAS NARROWED
TO HENZE'S SAYING THAT THE FRG'S CONCERN WAS THAT THE
EC NOT GIVE A FALSE IMPRESSION OF WEAKNESS AND CARTER'S
REPEATING THAT THE UK DID NOT WANT TO PRESS THE POINT
WITH THE GDR OR POLAND IN THE INITIAL STAGES.
SPECIFICALLY, IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GDR THE UK
WANTS TO POSTPONE USE OF THE PREVIOUSLY-AGREED PROCEDURE
OF AN ORAL STATEMENT ON THE MARGIN OF THE
NEGOTIATION (REFTELS D AND E) THAT THE TERRITORIAL
CLAUSE REFERS TO BERLIN.

6. ON THIS BASIS THE BONN GROUP AGREED TO RECOMMEND

THAT, IN GOING THROUGH THE EC DRAFT TREATY WITH THE
GDR, THE EC REPRESENTATIVE SHOULD SUGGEST THAT, SINCE
THE EC POSITION ON THE TERRITORIAL CLAUSE IS WELL-KNOWN
AND IS BEING TREATED IN PARALLEL (READ EC/SOVIET)
NEGOTIATIONS, DISCUSSION OF THAT CLAUSE COULD BE
POSTPONED. ONLY IF THE GDR QUESTIONED THE TERRITORIAL
CLAUSE, OR REJECTED IT, WOULD IT BE NECESSARY FOR THE
EC TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREED SCENARIO OF AN ORAL SIDE-
STATEMENT.
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Message Attributes

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